Showcase Series 1

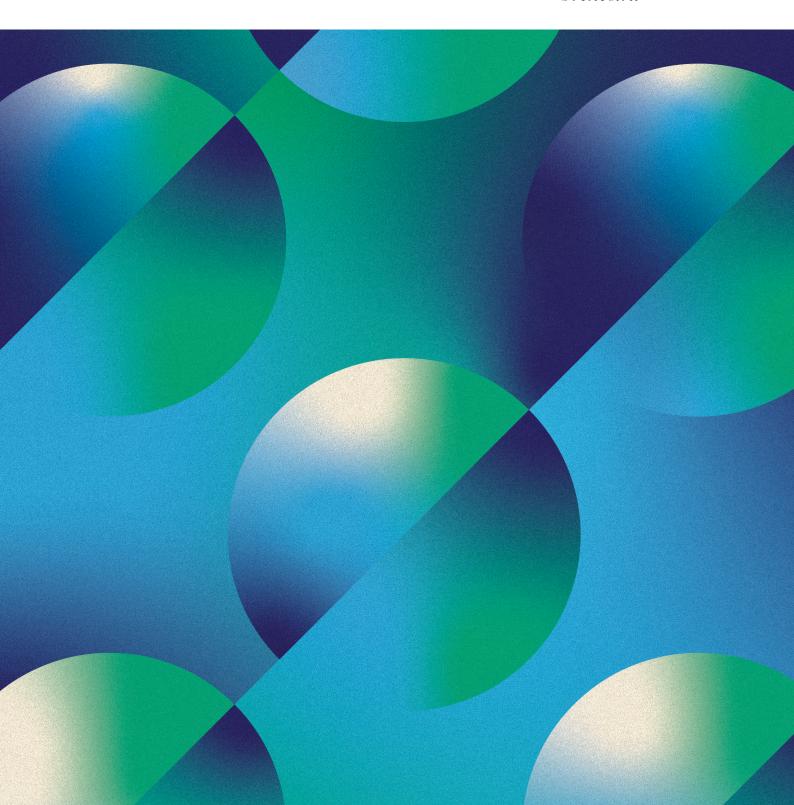


Orchestra Unwrapped

Fri 10 & Sat 11 February Festival Theatre

Adelaide *Symphony Orchestra*

Season 2023



Showcase Series 1

Orchestra Unwrapped

Fri 10 & Sat 11 February Festival Theatre Guy Noble Conductor/Presenter

Emily Sun Violin

Duration 2 hr 15 min (incl. interval)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) The Magic Flute: Overture	[7′]
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) orch. Leopold Stokowski (1882-1977) Toccata and Fugue in D minor BWV 565	[9']
Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908) Carmen Fantasy on Themes of Bizet, Op.25 Emily Sun Violin	[12']
Joe Hisaishi (born 1950) arr. Johansson Howl's Moving Castle: Merry-Go-Round of Life	[3′]
Paul Dukas (1865-1935) The Sorcerer's Apprentice	[12']
Interval	
Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908) Scheherazade – Symphonic Suite, Op.35: I. The Sea and Sinbad's Ship	[10′]
Jules Massenet (1842-1912) Thaïs: Meditation Emily Sun Violin	[5′]
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893) Valse-Scherzo, Op.34	[6']
Emily Sun Violin Excerpts from <i>The Nutcracker</i> – Suites Op. 71a and 71b I. March II. Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy III. Pas de deux	[10']
John Williams (born 1932) Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone: Hedwig's Theme, Harry's Wondrous World	[11′]

The ASO acknowledges that the land we make music on is the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We pay respect to Elders past and present and recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that this is of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. We extend this respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are with us for this performance today.

About the *music*

It was Forrest Gump who famously observed that life was like a box of chocolates; in his immortal words, 'you never know what you're gonna get.' Well when you unwrap an orchestra you'll be surprised and delighted in equal measure; you might find a magic wand (OK a baton then) that will conjure up some of John Williams' music for the *Harry Potter* films, or the fairy-tale sounds of Tchaikovsky's ballet *The Nutcracker*. Oh but they're the sweet treats...better save them for the end.

A gift can be beautiful and imposing at the same time, and your first two 'presents' are just that. Firstly the overture to the opera *The Magic Flute*, Mozart's timeless story of a prince and a bird catcher who, on their quest to rescue the Queen of the Night's beautiful daughter Pamina, also find love and enlightenment. Then one of the most famous of all musical transformations, as Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor, an iconic work for solo organ, becomes a gleaming orchestral showpiece as reimagined by conductor Leopold Stokowski. You may know this version best thanks to Stokowski himself, who conducted it in Disney's *Fantasia* (1940).

It's hard to imagine any stage work that's had a longer or more varied life than Bizet's *Carmen*. It's been turned into a musical, a classical *and* flamenco ballet and a 'Hip Hopera' with Beyoncé. And yes there is a *Carmen on Ice*. Pablo de Sarasate was a legendary violin virtuoso, and created his dazzling fantasy on themes from the opera in 1883, just a few years after *Carmen*'s premiere.

If you're fan of the Studio Ghibli films, try to imagine the scene in *Howl's Moving Castle* in which Howl and Sophie first meet, but without the music of Joe Hisaishi, and you'll realise how much richer movies can be when music helps 'unwrap' the narrative. And how about the adventures of *The Sorcerer's Apprentice?* Even without the memory of Mickey Mouse trying to manage all those brooms and buckets, Dukas' vivid musical

fantasy puts you in the picture, from the first theme announced softly by the violins – where you seem to overhear the apprentice as he utters his incantations – to the wild reprise of the galloping 'broom' theme, just before the sorcerer returns to undo the spell, and summon an imperious calm.

Is there a more influential storyteller than Scheherazade? In The Thousand and One Nights she tells her master, the Sultan, one incredible tale after another, night after night, sometimes telling stories within stories, so the reader is drawn into an engulfing narrative vortex. This vast collection of tales can be traced back to the 11th century, and has inspired artists of all kinds including, most musically, Rimsky-Korsakov, whose suite based on Scheherazade's stories is an orchestral showpiece for the ages. Tonight's excerpt tells of Sinbad on one of his many sea-going adventures.

To another chronicle from the middle east next, but one which exudes glorious serenity. In Massenet's opera *Thaïs*, set in Egypt in the early Christian era, the heroine is a courtesan who is converted to the faith. The *Meditation*, which depicts Thaïs' awakening conscience, occurs between Acts II and III – and what a spellbinding violin solo it makes. So too does Tchaikovsky's Valse-Scherzo, a swift, hugely enjoyable romp that calls for great virtuosity from the soloist.

What do Tchaikovsky's music for *The Nutcracker* ballet and John Williams' score for the early *Harry Potter* movies have in common – apart from a strong dose of magic in each? The answer: the delicate, ethereal sound of the celeste, a keyboard instrument so new during Tchaikovsky's time that he was the first composer to use it – in fact the *Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy* was the first time it was heard in an orchestral work. You really do never know what you're going to get...

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Guy Noble Conductor/Presenter



Emily Sun Violin

Guy Noble has conducted the Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, West Australian, Tasmanian, Queensland and Canberra Symphony orchestras, the Auckland Philharmonia, and the Hong Kong Symphony and Malaysian Philharmonic orchestras. He is the host and accompanist each year for Great Opera Hits (Opera Australia) at the Sydney Opera House, conducted Opera Queensland's 2014 production of La bohème, and hosted and conducted two concerts as part of the ASO's successful Festival of Orchestra (2021). In 1991 he was a network announcer on BBC Radio 3, host of Breakfast on ABC Classic from 1999 to 2001 and a presenter on ABC TV's Dimensions in Time series. He appeared in four episodes of ABC TV's Spicks and Specks which still air at odd hours of the day or night.

Guy has worked with a wide variety of international performers including Harry Connick Jr, Ben Folds, The Beach Boys, The Pointer Sisters, Dianne Reeves, Glenn Frey, Randy Newman, Clive James, Conchita, The Two Cellos, Alfie Boe and Olivia Newton John. Other career highlights include cooking on stage with the ASO and Maggie Beer and Simon Bryant from ABC TV's Cook and The Chef, and singing Rossini Cat's Duet in recital with Korean soprano Sumi Jo.

Emily Sun is the ASO's 2023 Artist in Association. Remarkable for her versatility across the concerto, recital and chamber music repertoire, Emily is a multi-international prize winner, having been awarded the 2018 ABC Young Performer of the Year, the 2016 UK Royal Overseas League 'Commonwealth Musician of the Year', and prizes at Yampolsky International Violin Competition (Russia), Brahms International Violin Competition (Haly).

As a concerto soloist, Emily has appeared with orchestras worldwide including the Sydney, Melbourne, Queensland, Tasmanian and Canberra Symphony orchestras; Arlington Symphony, Arizona Symphony and Garland Symphony Orchestras in USA; Shanghai Youth Orchestra and Qingdao Symphony Orchestra in China; Orchestre de Royal Wallonie and Orchestre de Chambre Namur in Belgium. She has performed recitals in some of the world's leading concert venues including the Sydney Opera House, Wigmore Hall London and Auditorium du Louvre Paris. 2022 engagements included concerts for UKARIA Cultural Centre, Musica Viva and the Art Gallery of NSW.

In the world of chamber music, Emily has collaborated with, among others, Maxim Vengerov, Gary Hoffman, Danny Driver, Gemma Rosefield and Tamara-Anna Cislowska, and is regularly invited to perform at music festivals across Europe and Australia. Emily's debut recording, *Nocturnes*, for ABC Classic (featuring pianist Andrea Lam) was nominated for a 2021 ARIA for Best Classical Album.

Emily plays a 1760 Nicolò Gagliano violin, kindly loaned to her through the Beare's International Violin Society.

The ASO's 2023 Artist in Association is generously supported by Sally Gordon

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra

Violins

Cameron Hill**

Acting Concertmaster

Helen Ayres*

Acting Associate

Concertmaster

Emma Perkins*

Acting Principal 1st Violin

Alison Heike**

Principal 2nd Violin

Lachlan Bramble~

Associate Principal 2nd Violin

Janet Anderson

Ann Axelby

Erna Berberyan

Minas Berberyan

Gillian Braithwaite

Julia Brittain

Hilary Bruer

Elizabeth Collins

Jane Collins

Belinda Gehlert

Danielle Jaquillard

Alexis Milton

Michael Milton

Ambra Nesa

Julie Newman

Liam Oborne

Alexander Permezel

Kemeri Spurr

Violas

Justin Julian**

Rosi McGowran~ **Acting Associate**

Lesley Cockram

Linda Garrett

Anna Hansen

Stephen King

Michael Robertson

Cecily Satchell

Cellos

David Sharp**

Acting Principal

Gemma Phillips~

Acting Associate

Christopher Handley

Sherrilyn Handley

Andrew Leask

Jack Overall

Cameron Waters

Double Basses

Jonathon Coco**

Acting Section Principal

Harley Gray~

Acting Associate

Jacky Chang

Belinda Kendall-Smith

Rob Nairn

Gustavo Quintino

Flutes

Julia Grenfell**

Acting Principal

Samantha Hennessy

Piccolos

Lisa Gill*

Acting Principal

Lauren Borg

Oboes

Renae Stavelv*

Acting Principal

Shana Hoshino

Cor Anglais

Peter Duggan*

Clarinets

Dean Newcomb**

Darren Skelton*

Principal E-Flat

Bass Clarinet

Mitchell Berick*

Bassoons

Mark Gaydon*

Leah Stephenson

Tim Rosen

Contrabassoon

Jackie Newcomb*

Horns

Adrian Uren**

Emma Gregan

Philip Paine*

Timothy Skelly

Trumpets

David Khafagi**

Martin Phillipson~

Gregory Frick

Timothy Frahn

Trombones

Colin Prichard**

Charlie Thomas

Bass Trombone

Amanda Tillett*

Tuba

Stan McDonald*

Timpani

Andrew Penrose*

Percussion

Steven Peterka**

Sami Butler~

Jamie Adam

Amanda Grigg

Ryan Grunwald

Harp

Carolyn Burgess*

Guest Principal

Celeste/Piano

Guest Principal

Katrina Reynolds*

Correct at the time of print

^{**} denotes Section Principal

denotes Associate Principaldenotes Principal Player

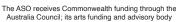
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